



The Rules for Sacrifice

Bible Passage: Leviticus

Key Passage: ³⁷Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ **Matthew 22:37-39**

Big Picture Question: What is God like? God is holy, good, and loving.

Bottom Line: Because God is holy, good and loving, I can be confident that Jesus forgives my sin and gives me the power to live a Godly life.

Christ Connection: *The sacrifices God required of His people were a hint of what God was going to do to forgive sinners. We no longer need to offer sacrifices because we trust in Jesus. Jesus offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice that takes away our sin once and for all.*

10 Minutes SOCIAL: SETTING THE TONE OF THE EXPERIENCE

5 second rule

What You Need: “5 Second Rule” Game Cards, timer, score pad, pencils

What You Do:

- The youngest player gets to start in the Hot Seat and play will move to the right.
- The player to the left of the person in the “Hot Seat” will draw a card and read it aloud.
 - If the subject matter is something that everyone does not know, you can draw a new card or explain it to them.
- As soon as the card is read, start a timer (5 seconds for each player). The player in the “Hot Seat” has 5 seconds to give 3 (or 2) answers.
- If the person in the “hot seat” says the answers before time is out, they get one point.
- The play continues with the next person to the right. That person has to answer the same question from the person in the “hot seat” first. Here is the trick, they cannot use the same answers the last person used. If they answer in 5 seconds then they get a point.
- Play continues around the circle until everyone has had the chance to answer the same question.
- When you get back to the original person in the Hot seat, you will pick a new question and start the game again with the person to the left of the first player.
- The person with the most points in the end wins.
- If an answer someone gave is questionable for the category, the group as a whole can vote.

What You Say “You guys are fast and furious. Thank you for helping us have some fun together. As we learn from our Bible stories we are going to be seeing some amazing things that God does to care for and lead His people. We are going to see many things that help us know who God is. Let’s get ready to participate in Large Group.

10 Minutes Worship: CELEBRATING WHAT GOD IS DOING

SONGS, OFFERING AND PRAYER

15 Minutes LARGE GROUP: COMMUNICATING GOD’S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS

TEACHING FOCUS (Leviticus)

We know from past stories that God does not ignore sin. When His people disobeyed Him, He disciplined them. As you can imagine, God wants people to always obey, but He knows that we have sin in our hearts. We are broken and cannot always obey. God is holy and requires a sacrifice for sin. That’s why God provided rules for sacrifice.

God wanted the people to have a way to make things right again after they sin. In a way, it’s like when a police officer



gives a ticket to a person who is speeding or runs a red light. That person gets the ticket and then must pay a fine or take a class to take care of the ticket.

But even though God had given the people rules for sacrifice, and priests to help them make the sacrifices, there was still a problem. Even the priests were sinners. That meant that no matter what sacrifice was offered, another sacrifice would eventually be needed. On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest would take two goats, one to sacrifice and one to send into the wilderness, but even this special day each year was not enough to cover sin forever. That's why God sent Jesus.

CONTEXT

The tabernacle was complete. God now had a place where His glory could dwell without causing the Israelites to fear death. God had given His people laws from the mountain, and He gave them more rules for living and worshiping Him in the tabernacle. These rules are recorded in the Book of Leviticus. The reasoning behind Leviticus can be found in Leviticus 19:2: "Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy."

In Leviticus 17:11, God set apart the blood of a creature as the means for making atonement. This answers the question, "Why did Jesus have to die?" God's requirement for the forgiveness of sins was the shedding of blood: "According to the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness" (Heb. 9:22).

It is important to note a New Testament revelation about the sin offering. Hebrews 10:4 says, "It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins." Then why did God require people to make sacrifices? The institution of a sacrifice was to point to something greater—the ultimate sacrifice God would make by sending His own Son, Jesus Christ, to pay for the sins of the world once and for all. (See Eph. 1:7; Rom 5:9.)

The Book of Leviticus contains many rules for the Israelite people, but we do not obey all the rules in Leviticus today because we trust Jesus, who obeyed the law perfectly for us.

Few—if any!—of the kids you teach will be familiar with the Book of Leviticus. Use this session as an opportunity to emphasize God's holiness and His requirement of a blood sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins. Lead them to treasure Jesus as the perfect and final sacrifice "who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29).

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- **God can't deal with sinful people. He is 100% holy.**
- **Throughout the story of the Bible, God makes a way for sinful people - like you and me - to relate to Him.**
- In Leviticus, He set up a system of sacrifices so that people could be made right with Him. This sacrificial system points us to Jesus, His ultimate sacrifice.
- The rules help people know what they should do when they sin. They were a hint as to what God would provide to forgive us when Jesus offered His life to forgive us once and for all.
- BL: Because God is holy, good, and loving, I can be confident that Jesus forgives my sin and gives me the power to live a Godly life.
- **When I mess up, I can always confess my sin to God and He will always forgive me.**

Give kids a chance to believe in Jesus for the first time. Remind them that God loves them so much that He sent Jesus to earth to pay for their sins. Lead them to pray as you pray. Pray that believers will submit their lives to the Holy Spirit, follow Jesus, and tell others about Him.

25 Minutes SMALL GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Discussion Questions:

1. **What could God's people give to Him as offerings?** (*animals or grain, Lev. 1-3*)
2. **What were offerings used for?** (*praising God or dealing with sin, Lev. 1-4*)
3. **What purpose did the two goats serve on the Day of Atonement?** (*One was killed for the people's sin, the other sent into the wilderness to represent the sin being carried away; Lev. 16*)
4. **Why was the Day of Atonement so important?** *Guide kids to discuss the Israelites' need to be made right with God. Talk about their sin and how it separated them from God. Remind them that the Day of Atonement was God's way of dealing with sin before Jesus came.*



5. **Why don't we still have a Day of Atonement?** *Talk about what Jesus accomplished on the cross. Remind them that His death was the one, perfect sacrifice to pay for sin forever. Remind the kids that we no longer need a scapegoat. When we trust in Jesus, He forgives us and removes our sin.*
6. **How are the offerings Christians give similar to the offerings the Israelites gave? How are they different?** *Guide kids to discuss that Christians can still give resources—money, food, clothing, time, talents, and so forth—as a way to serve the church and glorify God. Discuss the fact that we no longer need to give sin offerings, because Jesus died for our sins.*
7. **Why did God require animals to be sacrificed?** *Help kids recognize that sacrifice goes all the way back to the first sin of Adam and Eve. When God made clothes to cover them (and their sin), He used animal skins. Animals were sacrificed to cover sin. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Heb. 9:22.)*
8. **Sacrifices helped the people remember their sin and that God is holy. Why was that not enough?** *Help kids recognize the sacrifices didn't completely take away the sin problem. People had to offer them again and again. It was never enough. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Heb. 10:4.)*
9. **Why do we not need to offer animal sacrifices today?** *Help kids recognize that Jesus was the perfect sacrifice, once and for all. He took our punishment on the cross, and we have forgiveness through His blood. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Heb. 10:10.)*

Activity: Guess the Price

What You Need: "Guess the Price" Activity page (1 per group)

What You Do:

- Display the Guess the Price Activity page.
- As you work down the list of items, ask kids to guess the prices of the various items.
- Give them clues such as higher or lower until they are able to guess the correct price.
- A few of the items on the list are tricky, they may not have monetary value. How do you guess the value of things like Jesus? Grace? Mercy? Sin? Ask the kids to help you come up with how they would describe those "things" in terms of value.
- What is the value or weight of sin?
- How can we know that we don't live in the weight of sin any more?
- How would they talk about that with a friend or loved one? If most of the kids in your group can't have this conversation yet, present the gospel to them and ask them to tell a loved one what you talked about today.

What You Say " God is holy and requires a sacrifice for sin. The Bible teaches us that the fair payment of our sin is death. In the Old Testament, people had to offer animal sacrifices to cover their sin. God provided the rules for sacrifice because He is merciful. He wanted His people to be with Him.

God showed His incredible mercy again, in an even bigger way, when He sent Jesus to live a perfect life and die on the cross. Jesus' death completely paid for our sin. We don't need to offer more sacrifices because Jesus' sacrifice is perfect.

Why don't we obey all the rules in Leviticus today? We do not obey all the rules in Leviticus because we believe in Jesus, who obeyed the law perfectly for us and offered Himself as the final sacrifice. **Because God is holy, good and loving, I can be confident that Jesus forgives my sin and gives me power to live a Godly life.**

Activity: Memory Verse Activity

The Gospel Project
Unit 6 Session 3- Edited by Parkway Church



All Star Kids

March 24, 2019
3rd- 5th Grade

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster, basketball goal or trashcan/bucket, ball

What You Do:

- Review the Memory Verse as a group together out loud a few times.
- Then have the kids line up behind a taped line on the floor
- Set up the “goal”
- Kids are going to take turns making a goal by throwing their ball into the goal.
- After they shoot, they say one word from the Memory Verse.
- You can play as many times as time allows.

What You Say ”Our memory verse comes from the Book of Matthew. Jesus spoke these words to answer a question about which commands of God are the most important. Jesus taught that when you love God with all you have and love others as you love yourselves, you will end up obeying the other commands too! They are all connected to these two.

Pray and Dismiss:

What You Need: “Letter to parents” (1 per kid)

What You Say:

“God, thank You for loving us. Thank You for providing Jesus as the way back to You. We ask You to help us live like Him. Help us turn away from sin day by day so that we can live on mission for you. Amen. “

5 Minutes HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage your kids to tell their parents about Moses. What was God doing? Send home the letter to parents **BL- Because God is holy, good and loving, I can be confident that Jesus forgives my sin and gives me the power to live a Godly life.**